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**الـمـمـلـكـة الـمـغـربـيـة** وزارة التعليـــم العـــــالي و البحث العلمي و الإبتكار



### CHARTER FOR DOCTORAL THESIS

This charter aims to establish the principles and guidelines for the completion of a doctoral thesis. It defines the rights and responsibilities of doctoral candidates, thesis supervisors, and research institutions to ensure a rigorous and ethical research process.

The thesis charter is a document adopted by the University, which defines, in accordance with the national scientific and pedagogical standards (NSPN) for the doctoral cycle, the reciprocal commitments of the doctoral candidate, their thesis supervisor, the responsible person in the hosting research structure, and the Director of the Doctoral Studies Department, in accordance with the provisions of Ministerial Order No. 1371-07 of 22 Ramadan 1429 (23 September 2008).

## Thesis Topic Selection Procedure

1-1. The preparation of a thesis should be part of a clearly defined personal and professional project, established by the supervisor and the doctoral candidate, outlining its objectives and requirements. It requires clarity in the pursued goals and the means employed to achieve them.

1-2. The thesis represents the culmination of original and formative research work.

1-3. The feasibility of the thesis topic falls within the timeframe specified by the national scientific and pedagogical standards for the doctoral cycle.

Thesis Objectives

2.1. The doctoral thesis must significantly contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the specific research field.

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2.2. The doctoral candidate, in consultation with their thesis supervisor, must clearly define the objectives of their thesis and develop a realistic work plan to achieve them.

#### Supervision

3.1. The doctoral candidate has the right to be supervised by a competent thesis supervisor with relevant expertise in the research field.

3.2. The thesis supervisor must provide regular and quality supervision, offering academic guidance, assessing the progress of the doctoral candidate, and enabling them to acquire the necessary skills for completing the thesis.

## **Intellectual Property**

4.1. The doctoral candidate has the right to preserve their intellectual property, in accordance with the intellectual property policies of the research institution.

4.2. If research results are potentially patentable or commercially exploitable, the rights and interests of all parties involved must be clearly defined and established in an appropriate intellectual property agreement.

# Scientific and Ethical Integrity

5.1. The doctoral candidate must adhere to the principles of scientific and ethical integrity, avoiding any form of fraud, plagiarism, or data manipulation.

5.2. The doctoral candidate must respect confidentiality rules, where applicable, particularly when handling sensitive data or collaborating with external partners.

# Thesis Duration

6.1. The duration of the thesis is three years, taking into account the specific constraints of the research field. This period can be extended by one or two additional years, upon derogation from the institution.

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In exceptional cases, a third year of extension may be granted upon derogation from the university president, based on the recommendation of the Director of the Doctoral Studies Department.

6.2. Doctoral candidates must be informed of the progression requirements, including deadlines for thesis writing and defense.

## Dissemination of Results

7.1. The doctoral candidate has the right to disseminate the results of their research, in accordance with the publication policies of Ibn Tofail University in Kénitra, research policies, and applicable intellectual property rights. However, the name of the thesis supervisor must necessarily appear among the co-authors of scientific publications.

7.2. The doctoral candidate is encouraged to present their work at conferences, seminars, and other scientific events, as well as publish in renowned scientific journals, following consultation with their thesis supervisor.

7.3. The complete text of the doctoral thesis will be published on the websites of Ibn Tofail University in Kénitra and the IMIST, with the exception of theses requiring confidentiality. In such cases, the doctoral candidate and their thesis supervisor must inform the Doctoral Studies Department before the public defense of the doctoral thesis.

## Additional Training

8.1. Doctoral candidates should have access to additional training opportunities that allow them to develop transferable skills and broaden their academic and professional horizons. The Doctoral Studies Department at Ibn Tofail University in Kénitra offers eight common modules for all doctoral candidates, as well as a module specific to their doctoral training, in compliance with the NSPN.

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8.2. The English, language of defense, and digitalization modules require certification before the defense. Other mandatory modules must be validated. The assessment method for these modules will be specified by the thesis committee established by the Council of the Doctoral Studies Department.

8.3. Research structures associated with doctoral programs must actively support the personal and professional development of doctoral candidates.

### **Doctoral Thesis Defense**

9-1. The authorization for thesis defense, the appointment of the defense jury, admission or adjournment decisions, and the awarding of the doctoral degree are carried out in accordance with the articles of the NSPN for the doctoral cycle.

9-2. Authorization for defense is granted to the candidate only after the publication of two articles indexed in scientific databases, regardless of the research field, considering the journal's impact factor and the scientific domain. These publications must be related to the thesis topic.

The candidate must also present two communications at international conferences.

9.3. The thesis manuscript must undergo an anti-plagiarism analysis program before the defense. This anti-plagiarism report is submitted to the jury members along with the thesis reports.

9.4. Successfully defended theses will be published online on the website of the Doctoral Studies Department at Ibn Tofail University and the IMIST, for the purpose of scientific communication and non-profit objectives.

The databases and journals accepted for research publication will be periodically published each year on the website of the Doctoral Studies Department.

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#### **Mediation Procedure**

10.1. In the event of a breach of the commitments outlined in this charter, an amicable solution will be sought within the hosting structure. If unsuccessful, the matter will be referred to the Director of the Doctoral Studies Center or the Director of the Doctoral Studies Department.

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10.2. In case of persistent conflict, the dispute will be brought before an ad-hoc commission designated by the Council of the Doctoral Studies Department.

Doctoral Candidate's	Thesis Supervisor
Head of the Hosting Structure	Director of the CED IBN TOFAIL
Director of the PED IBN TOFAIL	

#### Les Signatures

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